

Docket No. 2001-062-TAP

CLAIMS:

What is claimed is:

- 1 1. A method for scaling a media storage library,
 2 wherein the library comprises a plurality of media
 3 storage cells and at least one media picker robot, the
 4 method comprising:
 5 connecting a new physical component to a section of
 6 the library; and
 7 integrating the new physical component into the
 8 function of the library by auditing the content and
 9 function of the new component;
 10 wherein the library maintains current operation
 11 during the connection and functional integration of the
 12 new component.
- 1 2. The method according to claim 1, wherein the new
 2 physical component is a picker robot.
- 1 3. The method according to claim 1, wherein the new
 2 physical component is a storage cell array.
- 1 4. The method according to claim 1, wherein the new
 2 physical component is a media player.
- 1 5. The method according to claim 1, wherein the new
 2 physical component is a second storage library.
- 1 6. The method according to claim 5, wherein the storage
 2 libraries are connected by means of a pass-through

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3 mechanism that passes media cartridges between picker
4 robots in the respective libraries.

1 7. The method according to claim 1, further comprising:
2 defining at least one work zone within the library,
3 wherein the ^{at least one} picker robot stays out of the work zone,
4 while continuing to operate in other areas of the
5 library.

1 8. The method according to claim 7, wherein the defined
2 work area ^{zone} is associated with an open service door in an
3 enclosure surrounding the library components.

1 9. The method according to claim 1, wherein the ^{at least one} picker
2 robot in the media storage library moves along
3 interconnected guide rails.

1 10. The method according to claim 1, wherein the media
2 storage library further comprises a plurality of picker
3 robots.

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